

Theater Deployable Communications
System Integration Contract
Statement of Objectives
16 Jul 01

Purpose. The Theater Deployable Communications (TDC) program is upgrading the Air Force's deployable communications infrastructure. The TDC program consists of three major components:

Lightweight Multiband Satellite Terminal (LMST). The LMST is a tri-band satellite transportable satellite terminals providing access to both military and commercial satellite systems.

Integrated Communications Access Packages (ICAP). ICAP is a suite of modules and accessory kits providing the communications backbone for deployed operations. ICAP is comprised of commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) circuit switches, multiplexers, routers, multiplexers, on-base transmission (radio and laser), and support devices.

Network Control Center-Deployed (NCC-D). The NCC-D provides network management, information protection, and network core services for deployed operations. NCC-D is comprised of COTS servers and is the primary point of contact for deployed operations.

TDC equipment will be deployed at forward locations and units in accordance with the TDC Priority List.

Scope. The scope of the TDC System Integration Contract is to provide system engineering support for the acquisition and fielding of TDC equipment. This support will augment and extend the system engineering activities organic to the program office, as well as the help desk and training functions provided through other contract vehicles/avenues. This effort specifically excludes the acquisition and fielding of TDC equipment, modules, and accessories.

Specific Objectives. Specific objectives and activities of the system integration contract include, but are not limited to, the following:

Keep the TDC program office, ESC/DIGD, informed about all activities through frequent phone/email/face-to-face communication as well as monthly status reports. This includes attending program office meetings as required. There is no intent to co-locate the system integration support contractor with the TDC program office; however, the contractor must be within reasonable commuting distance to support frequent meetings at Hanscom AFB, MA.

Provide a single focal point for the System Integration contract team, responsible and accountable for the team's activities.

Maintain a detailed level of technical knowledge relative to the TDC program, including subject matter expertise in the applicable functional areas (e.g., voice switching, data, microwave radios, lasers, etc).

Support the TDC Lead Program Engineer as part of the overall engineering team responsible for the technical execution of the program. The following is a prioritized list of tasks that are currently underway:

Updating TDC technical documentation (tech manuals) to incorporate new equipment items and/or keep the information correct and up-to-date.

Conducting interoperability testing validating joint, legacy, and commercial interoperability.

Troubleshooting problems discovered in the field and identify appropriate fixes and/or workarounds and document lessons learned in an appropriate form (e.g., Knowledge Base Items (KBIs) for the TDC web site, recommended updates to technical documentation, etc).

Maintaining the TDC standards document detailing specific features and characteristics required of all TDC equipment.

Qualifying new ICAP vendors to ensure products meet requirements and comply with standards.

Testing TDC modules and systems to validate equipment works as a system. ESC's CUBE computer facility will be used as both a facility and source of equipment in lieu of establishing separate test bed.

Preparing and updating documentation such as the Operational Suitability, Safety and Effectiveness (OS&E) Implementation Plan and the C4I Support Plan (C4ISP) for the TDC program.